



# THE PERSE

## PREP SCHOOL

CAMBRIDGE

29<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents,

*Viscount de Albuquerque* and *Lord Wansell* demonstrated in today's assembly the preposterous way in which our ancestors used to solve arguments. Fortunately, we no longer duel with pistols (or even pillows!) to resolve our differences. We looked at whether the behaviour of certain animals might provide alternatives for dealing with conflict – however, we didn't approve of either the teddy bear who, although lovely, is too soft and always gives in to others, or the turtle who hides in its shell and avoids arguments even when it knows the truth, and certainly not the shark who wants to win at all costs and doesn't care about the feelings of others. Instead I challenged your children to be either the wise owl, always looking around to consider others and explore answers that make everyone happy, or the big dog, encouraging everyone to give in a little and compromise.



### Parent Survey

In this spirit of wisdom, we are calling on all Prep parents to complete our Parents' Survey. Periodically we carry out anonymous surveys of all our parents and pupils to collect feedback on how we are doing. Because of the disruptions of Covid, it has been more than two years since we last surveyed parents. Today we launch our 2022 surveys across the Upper, Prep and Pelican and I'm hoping for a high completion rate for the Prep so we get lots of quality assurance data that can be used to keep improving the School. The survey opens today and will close at 4pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May. There are forty questions and we anticipate it will take about twenty minutes to complete. If you have more than one child at the Prep, please complete the survey once with your oldest child in mind.

Alongside the parents' survey, we are also asking children to complete a questionnaire which they will be doing in Computing lessons over the next week. Once we have collected and analysed all of the data from both surveys we will share key findings with children and parents.

### Pick-up at the end of the school day

The re-introduction of the roundabout pick-up is starting to help ease traffic flow at the end of the school day. However, there is still a busy period between 3.20 – 3.40pm.

Year 3&4 lessons finish at 3.25pm and Year 5&6 at 3.35pm. However, can I remind parents that they may prefer to delay pick-up to avoid some of the queues as, from 3.45 – 4.15pm the drive and car park are relatively empty. If children are not collected immediately after lessons, they will be taken to their respective homework clubs to be supervised; they can then get on with any homework tasks or silent reading. Parents arriving at this later time should report into Reception where Andrea will message the member of staff taking homework to send your child out to the car park. There is no charge for homework club which runs until 4.30pm every day. Not only does this provide significant flexibility for parents, it might ease the traffic flow, take the pressure off end of day family logistics, and enable your child to complete some of their tasks before they get home!

## Artwork

This week's art banners showcase Year 5 truss bridges built as part of engineering activities in DT. The children worked in pairs, thinking about the structure and strength of their bridges, and using weights to test these once constructed.



## Perse Giving Day

Thank you to the two hundred plus donors who supported The Perse's first ever Giving Day; over £114,000 was raised to fund bursaries and community outreach. The generosity of The Perse community will allow the School to extend the benefits of a Perse education to children who could not otherwise access the school.

## Year 6 POP – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

A reminder that Year 6 POP will take place at the Upper this week, running until the later time of 6:30pm. Children will be transported to the Upper after school, along with any bikes or scooters and should then be collected from the Upper School at the end of the session.

## Sport

For next week, parents are very welcome to attend the following matches:

### Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> May

4pm U11, U10 & U9 Athletics Meet at St Faiths. Collect from the Prep at 7pm

### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May

3.20pm U10 A/B/C/D Girls' Cricket v St John's (H). Collect from the Porson Road Fields at 5pm

3.20pm U10 A/B/C/D Boys' Cricket v St John's (A). Collect from the Prep at 6pm



Please note an extra fixture for the U10 Girls (H) and U10 Boys (A), as we have managed to confirm Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May for cricket matches against St Faith's starting at 3.15pm.

Summer games kit for boys and girls consists of white PE shirt, black shorts or skorts, and white PE socks. Tracksuit trousers and hoodies can be worn if it is cold. **However, in a change to what we had previously advertised, all children may wear white trousers for matches if they have them.**

## Tennis Club

Tennis Club this term takes place at the tennis courts on the astro, so do collect from this club at the Porson Road Playing Fields car park.

## Perse Summer School 2022

Places on The Perse Summer School, which runs for 4 weeks from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August, are selling fast and many courses are already full.

There is a good range of options for sports (tennis, basketball, golf, football and cricket) as well as a few options for cookery and creative arts. There are even have some highly-desired watersports spaces for the 7-10 age group in the first week! To avoid disappointment, do secure your places by booking now. Summer School is open to all children aged 7-14 so please encourage friends and family at other schools too. Further information and booking can be found at [www.persesummerschool.co.uk](http://www.persesummerschool.co.uk).



## PPP Family Spring Walk

It was special to see over forty people out for last weekend's PPP Family Spring Walk at the Magog Downs. The sun shone brightly, the dogs (and children) were well-behaved, and everyone tucked into delicious home-made cakes and refreshments afterwards. Huge thanks to Liz McDade, Catherine Curley and Kathryn Haughton for their time and effort helping to organise and run this event.

## PPP Second-hand uniform

There is a high demand for Perse polo shirts, summer dresses, games kit and, in particular, good quality blazers. If you have any of these that your child has grown out of, please consider donating them to raise money for the school. Do note that you can receive 40% commission for blazers sold if you provide your name, child's name and class, and contact details pinned to the blazer. Please leave all donations at Reception by 18<sup>th</sup> May.

## Upper PPA Talk – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 6.30pm

The Parents' Association at the Upper (PPA) is opening up one of its talks to all Prep parents as well. This is entitled "Money Coaching – your child's finances" and will be given [online](#) (Meeting ID: 819 2350 0764; Passcode: 366341) by Dennis Harhalakis of Cambridge Money Coaching. This presentation will cover: the psychology of money – how attitudes and behaviours are formed; how your money messages are impacting your children; how to develop a work ethic; how to talk to your children about money; how you can help your children to make thoughtful decisions around money; the 10 worst things you can say to children about money. There is no need to book and no charge for this; simply click on the link above.

## Music Certificates

Congratulations to **Florence Fast** on her Grade 1 Piano with Distinction; **Adam Lee** on his Piano Grade 2 with Merit; **Ehsaan Jethwa** on her Grade 2 Piano with Merit; **Zac Clark** on his Grade 3 Piano, **Alexander Toutoungi** for his Grade 3 Piano with Merit; **Hanzhe Wang** on his Grade 4 Piano; **Oliver Roland** on his Grade 4 Piano with Distinction; **Aadya Acharya** on her Violin Grade 5; **Ruolan Wang** on her Grade 5 Piano with Merit.

## Certificates and Awards

Congratulations to **Alexander Toutoungi** for his reading quest badge; **Aadya Acharya** on her Grade 3 Classical Indian Dance with Distinction; **Ehsaan Jethwa** on being selected to represent the Cambridgeshire U11 Basketball Team for the County Tournament; **Steven Wang** on being runner-up for the U10 UEA Grade 3 Easter Open and the U10 Letchworth Grade 4 Easter Open; **Lillian Ke** and **Anamaya Kumar**, and **Anaiya Gupta** who took part in the qualifying rounds, for representing the Cambridgeshire U10 Tennis Team who won the National County U10 Tournament last weekend; and **Jana Batuwangala Mallorqui** on her Head's Commendation for her thoughtful and uplifting booklet of six acrostic topical poems.

Congratulations to the following on achieving Gold certificates: **Sulayman Jawaid**, **Rithvik Krishna** and **Theo McKechnie**; and on their Platinum certificates; **Grace Butler**, **Marissa Ojha**, **Annousheh Sayed**, **India Short** and **Max Tysome**. This week's *Scores on the Doors* are as follows:

I wish everyone a super bank holiday weekend, and remind you that term restarts on Tuesday.

Yours sincerely



**James Piper**  
Head



**We value endeavour, intellectual curiosity and scholarship, breadth and balance, one another and our environment.**